

Information Sheet

Project Title: Planning and Development Study on Ma On Shan Whitehead - Geological Education Centre, Cycling City and Ancillary Facilities

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Project Abstract:

Whitehead overlooks a quiet and green environment at a strategic location. Since the opening of Ma On Shan Rail in 2004, the area has been connected with a public transport interchange that the external transport network has become more mature. As the time for development is ripe, planning of this piece of rare precious land should be implemented as soon as possible in order to avoid waste of land resources. The area is not only rich in geology and natural resources, but also have the reputation of being the natural museum of rocks and minerals. Comprehensive planning is needed to link up the existing local characters, to give full play to its unique geographical environment, and to raise its values in scientific research, education, recreation and tourism. In view of this, the study is suggested to use geographical, historical and planning points of view in investigating the development of Whitehead and the surrounding area.

In particular, the objectives of the study are:

- to analyze the development opportunities and constraints of Ma On Shan New Town and Whitehead;
- to collect the views and expectations of residents and industries (particularly on the development of cycling, water sports, eco-tourism, environmental issues and heritage conservation) and to establish the community's vision on the development of Whitehead;
- to investigate the mode of sustainable development which could make use of the value of the natural resources but not exceeding the natural carrying capacity of the environment; and
- to set a main development theme and a preliminary development concept plan for Whitehead.